



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

### ILLINOIS, Northwest

**ILZ001>002-007-009-015>018-024>026-034>035** **Jo Daviess - Stephenson - Carroll - Whiteside - Rock Island - Henry - Bureau - Putnam - Mercer - Henderson - Warren - Hancock - McDonough**

**03 2000CST 0 0 Winter Storm**  
**04 1200CST**

A wintry mix of rain, freezing rain, sleet, and heavy wet snow was accompanied by a few reports of lightning. Two-to-five inches of snow fell across the area with the heaviest snows across extreme northwest Illinois. Lesser snow accumulations to the south were the result of mixed sleet and rain. The slick roads caused school delays and numerous accidents.

<b>Bureau County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Carroll County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Hancock County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Henderson County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Henry County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Jo Daviess County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>McDonough County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Mercer County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Putnam County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Rock Island County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0	550K		Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Stephenson County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Warren County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0			Flood
	24	1600CST							
<b>Whiteside County</b>									
Countywide	20	1600CST			0	0	600K		Flood
	24	1600CST							

Heavy rains fell over the area while soils were still partially frozen. These widespread two-to-four inch rains came as area rivers and streams were running high from snowmelt from the previous week. Nearly every stream and river went out of its banks, leaving standing water for several days afterward.

The single largest impact was felt along the Rock River where record flooding occurred. At Joslin the river reached a record crest of 18.77 feet. This flooding came with large ice jams and, despite massive sand-bagging efforts, the combination of high water and ice breaks broke through levees near Erie and Hillsdale. Flooding caused evacuations of several towns along the Rock River.

Water broke through a 200 foot section of a railroad tressel and flooded Erie, Illinois, 200 to 250 persons had to be evacuated. Over 2/3 of Cleveland, Illinois' 300 residents had to be evacuated. 95% of Hillsdale, Illinois was covered in knee deep water with some areas over ten feet deep. 80% of Hillsdale's 500 residents were evacuated.



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### ILLINOIS, Northwest

These breaks relieved some of the stress further down stream; however, Moline still experienced some flooding and the fourth highest crest since the datum began in 1929. The impact of flooding along the Rock River was so great that the counties of Rock Island, Whiteside, and Henry were declared state disaster areas.

### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

**IAZ040>042-051>054-063>068-076>078-087>089-098>099**      **Buchanan - Delaware - Dubuque - Benton - Linn - Jones - Jackson - Iowa - Johnson - Cedar - Clinton - Muscatine - Scott - Keokuk - Washington - Louisa - Jefferson - Henry - Des Moines - Van Buren - Lee**

**03      2000CST      0      0      Winter Storm**  
**04      1200CST**

A wintery mix of rain, freezing rain, sleet, and heavy wet snow was accompanied by a few reports of lightning. Extreme lightning damage was done to a home in Washington, Iowa. The greatest impact of the storm, however, resulted from the two-to-eight-inch snowfall across the area. The heaviest snows fell along and north of a Cedar Rapids to Dubuque line. Lesser snow accumulations to the south were the result of mixed sleet and rain. Slick and snow-covered roads caused school delays and cancellations, and numerous accidents including one involving three dozen cars. Scattered utility outages also occurred. The city of Cedar Rapids estimated the cost of snow removal for this one event to range from thirty to forty thousand dollars.

#### **Washington County Washington**

**04      0400CST      0      0      Lightning**

Incredible lightning damage was done to a two-story home in Washington, Iowa during a thundersnow storm. Lightning struck the family's large television antenna tower, scattering pieces of it through the yard, then jumped to the house. Lightning damaged siding and knocked glass out of eight windows. The force of the surge caused light bulbs to explode, knocked out the telephone, and melted the fuse box. The lightning exited the home on the cold water pipe and caused it to burst, flooding the basement. Other damage: the exterior lead-in wire for the cable television service was knocked from its connection and sent halfway across the yard; all four phones, the stove vent, and the air conditioning unit were damaged; the glass front on a clock in the basement was blown off; plates hanging on the wall were knocked down; and a piece of linoleum in the downstairs was buckled.

#### **Buchanan County Countywide**

**20      1600CST      0      0      Flood**  
**22      1600CST**

#### **Cedar County Countywide**

**20      1600CST      0      0      Flood**  
**22      1600CST**

#### **Clinton County Countywide**

**20      1600CST      0      0      Flood**  
**22      1600CST**

#### **Delaware County Countywide**

**20      1600CST      0      0      Flood**  
**22      1600CST**

#### **Des Moines County Countywide**

**20      1600CST      0      0      Flood**  
**22      1600CST**

#### **Dubuque County Countywide**

**20      1600CST      0      0      Flood**  
**22      1600CST**

#### **Henry County Countywide**

**20      1600CST      0      0      Flood**  
**22      1600CST**



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### IOWA, East Central and Southeast

Iowa County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Jackson County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Jefferson County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Johnson County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Jones County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Keokuk County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Lee County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Linn County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Louisa County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Muscatine County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Scott County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Van Buren County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood
Washington County									
Countywide	20 22	1600CST 1600CST			0	0			Flood

Heavy rains fell over the area while soils were still partially frozen. These one-to-three inch rains came as area rivers and streams were running high from snowmelt during the previous week. Numerous streams and rivers went out of their banks, leaving standing water in the area for several days.

### WISCONSIN, Extreme Southwest

NONE REPORTED.